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Response to OA-7/21/04

Amendments to Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A gaming machine comprising:  
  
variable display means for variably displaying a plurality of patterns;

front side display means, which is arranged in front of said variable display means and through which the said plurality of patterns of the said variable display means can be seen, wherein said front side display means is configured so as to a stack of a plurality of panel-shaped displays;

internal prize-winning-combination determination means for determining an internal-win-combination;

~~a plurality of operation means for stopping a variable display of said variable display means,~~

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stop control means for stopping and controlling a variable display operation of said variable display means based on a determination result of said internal-win-combination determination means ~~and an operation of said operation means~~; and

game media disbursement means for disbursing game media when a stop mode of the variable display means stopped by said stop control means conforms with a predetermined stop mode.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The gaming machine according to Claim 1, wherein one of the said plurality of panel-shaped displays arranged on adjacent to a side of said variable display means side comprises an opening which allows the said plurality of patterns of the said variable display means to be seen therethrough.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The gaming machine according to Claim 1, wherein said plurality of panel-shaped displays each comprises a liquid crystal panel.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The gaming machine according to Claim 2, wherein said one of said plurality of panel-shaped

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displays comprises a liquid crystal panel.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended); A gaming machine including at least one variable display device showing varying images and a stop device for stopping the varying images so as to show a still image on each variable display device, the gaming machine comprising:

a front side display device being positioned in front of the at least one variable display device such that the gaming machine has a mode to allow the still image to be seen through the said front side display device;

wherein said front side display device comprises a first display panel and a second display panel being positioned between the said first display panel and the at least one variable display device such that the gaming machine has a mode to allow the still image to be seen through the said first display panel and said second display panels; and

wherein said first display panel and said second display panels are capable of showing images which are dependently of

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~~and independently from~~ on each other.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) : The gaming machine according to Claim 5, wherein at least one of said first display panel and said second display panels comprises an opening such that at least a part of the still image of the at least one variable display device may be seen through said opening.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) : The gaming machine according to Claim 5, wherein at least one of said first display panel and said second display panels comprises a plurality of openings such that at least a part of the still image of the at least one variable display device may be seen through at least one of said plurality of openings.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) : The gaming machine according to Claim 7, wherein said plurality of openings are arranged so as to show the still image on ~~each~~ the at least one variable display device through each of said plurality of openings.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) : The gaming machine according to Claim 5, wherein ~~at least one of~~ said ~~first and~~ second display

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panels comprises an opening and an opaque member disposed around the said opening such that at least a part of the still image of the at least one variable display device may be seen through said opening.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The gaming machine according to Claim 5, wherein ~~at least either~~ said first ~~or second~~ display panel comprises a liquid crystal panel.

Claim 11 (Original): The gaming machine according to Claim 5, wherein said second display panel comprises a reflecting plate.

Claim 12 (New): The gaming machine according to Claim 11, wherein said reflecting plate has a convex surface.

Claim 13 (New): The gaming machine according to Claim 5, wherein said front side display device further comprises a transparent plate with a predetermined thickness being positioned between said second display panel and at least one variable display device.

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Claim 14 (New) : The gaming machine according to Claim 13, wherein said front side display device further comprises a reflecting plate being positioned between said transparent plate and the at least one variable display device.

Claim 15 (New) : The gaming machine according to Claim 14, wherein said front side display device further comprises a back light such that light from said back light passes through said transparent plate and is reflected on said reflecting plate.

Claim 16 (New) : The gaming machine according to Claim 5, wherein said front side display device further comprises a frame for holding said first display panel and said second display panel, wherein said frame comprises a notch through which light passes.

Claim 17 (New) : The gaming machine according to Claim 5, wherein said at least one variable display device comprises a rotatable reel, and wherein an image shown by said first display panel is associated with the still image on said rotatable reel.

Claim 18. (New) The gaming machine according to Claim 5,

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wherein the at least one variable display device comprises a rotatable reel, and wherein an image shown by said second display panel is associated with the still image on said rotatable reel.

Claim 19 (New) : The gaming machine according to Claim 5, wherein said second display panel comprises a liquid crystal panel.

Claim 20 (New) : The gaming machine according to Claim 11, wherein said reflecting plate has a concave surface.

Claim 21 (New) : A gaming machine including at least one variable display device showing varying images and a stop device for stopping the varying images so as to show a still image on each variable display device, the gaming machine comprising:

a front side display device being positioned in front of the at least one variable display device such that the gaming machine has a mode to allow the still image to be seen through said front side display device;

wherein said front side display device comprises a first

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display panel and a second display panel being positioned between said first display panel and the at least one variable display device such that the gaming machine has a mode to allow the still image to be seen through said first display panel and said second display panel; and

wherein said first display panel and said second display panel are capable of showing images which are independent from each other.